(a) whether it is a fact that the allocation made for farm research is much lower in comparison to the amount being spent in other countries;

(b) whether the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture had recommended allocation of one per cent of the agriculture gross domestic product for research and education in the agricultural field;

(c) if so, the allocation being made in the field of research and education; and

(d) whether Government propose to increase the allocation during the Tenth Five Year Plan, with a view to achieve state-of-the-art technology trained manpower, in areas like biotechnology, integrated techniques and information technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Planning Commission have allocated Rs. 4800 crore as X Plan outlay and Rs. 775 crore as Annual Plan outlay (2002-03).

(d) The allocation are decided by the Planning Commission. However, the Department of Agricultural Research and Education and Indian Council of Agricultural Research are pursuing for higher allocation with the Planning Commission.

Subsidy on Chemical Fertilizers

†3965. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to give subsidy on chemical fertilizers, through other means in future;

(b) if so, whether Government have received any suggestion as to which type of subsidy may be given in future; and

(c) whether Government would consider the suggestions of common citizens in this regard?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Suggestions for paying subsidy on fertilizers direcly to farmers have been made time and again. However, there is no proposal at persent to provide subsidy on chemical fertilizers directly to the farmers because it is felt that the scheme is very difficult to operate and administer and hence cumbersome to provide subsidy directly to farmers.

(c) Yes, Sir. Government would consider any suggestion in this regard if found feasible and practicable to implement.

Companies Manufacturing Chemical Fertilizers and Insecticides/Pesticides

†3966. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the company-wise, production-wise, year-wise details of the companies manufacturing chemical fertilizers and insecticides/pesticides in the country; and

(b) whether it is a fact that our fertilizers and insecticides/pesticides have been rendered ineffective for new bio-technology being used for agriculture and seeds being provided by multi-national companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) The details of companies engaged in the manufacture of chemical fertilizers, and their production in terms of nutrients (N & P) during the last three years are given in Statement-I (*See* below). So far as chemical sector is concerned, there are a very large number of companies in the large, medium and small scale, which manufacture various kinds of agro-chemicals hence companies/units-wise detail of manufacturing agro-chemicals is not available. However, production data of agro-chemicals to the extent available with the Government for 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01 is given in Statement II (*See* below).

(b) Some of the crop varieties, for instance cotton (Bt) and rice (hybrids) evolved with bio-technological interventions being pest resistant may not require the use of pesticides. However, the use of plant nutrients through

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.